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Docket No.: A0312.70410US00
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Stephen J. Plante et al.
Serial No.: 09/923,225
Confirmation No.: 8975
Filed: August 6, 2001
For: HIGH PERFORMANCE TURBO AND VITERBI CHANNEL
DECODING IN DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSORS
Examiner: J. D. Torres
Art Unit: 2133

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: Aug. 23, 2006

Doris A. Champagne
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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This responds to the Final Office Action mailed May 23, 2006 in the above-identified application. For the following reasons, careful reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 18, 25 and 26 are pending in the application. No claim amendments are proposed. Claims 1 and 18 are independent claims.

The Examiner has finally rejected claims 1 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Amon et al. (US 5,742,621). Claims 2-6, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Amon et al. in view of Benedetto et al. (Article entitled "Soft-Output

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